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DOUBLE-D-LIFE

Gowanus pool off the chopping block for next summer

By Gary Bulso
The Brooklyn Paper

The city chased away the summer-time blues this week, declaring that the Douglass-Degraw Pool is no longer on the budgetary chopping block — despite attendance figures that were worse than the numbers that forced the closure threat in the first place.

"We have no plans to close any pools next season at this time," according to Parks Department spokeswoman Meghan Lalor.

If true, it comes as a bit of a surprise, given that attendance was slightly off, despite a campaign to save the pool at Third Avenue and Nevins Street, an unprecedented initiative that included Facebook, rallies, petitions and even the "Hotties of the Double-D," our weekly salute to the men and the woman who make the pool worthy of salvation.

The city said that 37,511 people



Douglass-Degraw Pool Lifeguard Jeff House will be happy to know that the pool is safe for next summer. We're happy, too.

visited the pool in 2010, compared to 37,838 in 2009.

Making the data even more startling is that the National Weather Service declared the summer of 2010 the hottest on record in New York City.

So even with city's firm assurance, the numbers worry pool enthusiasts. "I am surprised by it," said Gowanus resident Sam Neely, who set up the "Don't Close Double-D Pool" Facebook page to save the watering hole.

He was at a loss to explain the dip in numbers.

"The attendance seemed pretty high on the weekends," he said. "I would have assumed that more people would have learned about the pool through our Facebook group. I didn't think the upper-middle-class people of Park Slope knew about it, and I thought that by all these people getting active, they would have found out about the pool."



Delores Casey and Msgr. Paul Jarvis — a successor to Msgr. Bernard Quinn at St. Peter Claver Church in Bed-Stuy — urge the Vatican to move ahead on sainthood.

SAINT BE PRAISED?

Church moves to beatify early Civil Rights priest

By Gary Bulso
The Brooklyn Paper

The county named Kings may finally be getting a saint.

Bishop Nicholas DiMarzio of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Brooklyn has moved forward in the lengthy process to determine whether Msgr. Bernard J. Quinn, the founder of St. Peter Claver Church in Bedford-Stuyvesant and an early

proponent of civil rights for blacks, should ascend to sainthood.

Quinn, a Newark-born Irishman who was the son of a longshoreman, embraced and empowered the borough's African- and Caribbean-Americans, establishing St. Peter Claver for black Catholics in 1923, building an adjoining school that claims the late singer Lena Horne

See SAINT on page 6



Shortstop Wilfredo Tovar buries his head after the Cyclones' crushing Tuesday loss to the Tri-City Valley Cats, who swept the New York-Penn League championship series.

Sacked by Troy

Cyclones lose title series to Valley Cats

By Gersh Kuntzman
The Brooklyn Paper

The best-hitting Cyclones team in the history managed just three runs in a two-game sweep of the New York-Penn League championship series by the Tri-City Valley Cats, ending Brooklyn's dream of its first title since 2001.

In Game 1 in upstate Troy, the punchless Cyclones lost 5-2, managing just three hits. After two nights of rainouts, Tri-City completed the

sweep with a 5-1 win on Tuesday night, with the Clones getting only five hits.

"My guys were overwhelmed — and we didn't look prepared," Cyclones skipper Wally Backman told the Cyclones beat reporters in his post-game news conference, steps from the sad locker room. "Like we were improvising out there."

"So, yeah, I'm pissed," he added. "But they've got to learn this [losing] feeling themselves."

And to think, the opening game of the series started out so well, with the Cyclones jumping on the board first, thanks to a deep, two-run blast in the first inning by the team's leading home run hitter, Cory Vaughn.

But the Cyclones' bats managed only one more hit the rest of the series.

Tri-City broke the game open with a four-run fourth. Starter A.J. Piner walked the leadoff hitter Ben Orloff.

See SACKED on page 16

NO SURPRISES

Incumbents coast in local primaries

By Aaron Short
The Brooklyn Paper

There were few primary-election upsets in our coverage area, but that's to be expected in New York City democracy.

That said, Bay Ridge's Democratic District Leader Michael Grimm was a shocker, as a 24-year-

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old newcomer ousted beloved state committeeman Ralph Perfito.

Here's all the news that's fit

to print on a tight, caffeine-aided deadline:

CONGRESS: GOP

Michael Grimm, 6,391

Michael Allegretti, 3,832

13th District, Bay Ridge

The war for the hearts and

ALL SMILES: Longtime

Rep. Ed Towns trounced rival Kevin Powell in the Democratic primary.

See PRIMARIES on page 2



This woman is accused of "adopting" cats off Craigslist — and then selling them. She's a "cat flipper," her victims allege. The cats' identities have been protected because they are minors.

CAT SCAM

Woman adopts free felines — then sells them for cash

By Stephen Brown
The Brooklyn Paper

Some villains flip foreclosed houses — one Prospect Heights lady allegedly flips pets.

Louise Holmes thought she had found the perfect candidate on Craigslist to adopt two of her four adorable gray kittens, Peppi and Denver.

But as it turned out, the woman, who said her name was "Unique," was only looking to make a quick buck by turning around and selling the free felines in a classic cat scam.

"I was just so angry that I could not believe it," Holmes said.

The flummoxed feline fan said that Unique put on the perfect act: she seemed smitten with the little cats, cuddling and caressing them, and leading Holmes to believe that the kittens were going to a good home.

There was just one requirement: "I gave very clear instructions that if she changed her mind and didn't want the kittens, I wanted them back," said Holmes, who lives in Park Slope.

It became clear within days that the agreement had been broken, thanks to an e-mail that Holmes received from another woman, who had discovered an ad on Craigslist selling the kittens



Gator aid

Someone brought this alligator to the 88th Precinct stationhouse on Sunday, saying he "found" it in a park. Now the animal is awaiting adoption or return to the wild. See story, page 6.

GOOSEWATCH 2010

134

GEESE IN PROSPECT PARK
(As of Tuesday, Sept. 7)

Two months after authorities slaughtered geese in Prospect Park, 134 of the waterfowl have returned to the lake, according to Anne-Katrin Titze. Keep an eye out for Goose-Watch 2010 — our weekly update.

PRACTICE 'AIR SEX'

New contest comes to Williamsburg

By Andy Campbell
The Brooklyn Paper

It's time to get your "O" face on — the Air Sex World Championships are coming to Williamsburg.

Yes, the same spirit that turned fake guitar playing into a nationally televised event has gone rogue, allowing you to replicate the aesthetic grace you display when you're doing "it" to an entire audience at the Music Hall of Williamsburg — on-stage and completely alone.

To be a Svengali of air sex, the bottom line is this: Have a game plan. Indeed, air



sex virgins should follow the advice of the veritable Wit Chamberlain of air sex: host Chris Trew.

"Have a costume, have a game plan and commit 100 percent to whatever you're doing," said Trew. "If you're having sex with a goat, then I wanna see you stroking it horns. I want that goat to be turned on."

Hit event anything like the U.S. Air Gals. See SEX on page 13

City: trolleys back on track

But is the commitment for real this time?

By Stephen Brown
The Brooklyn Paper

Clang clang clang go the trolleys?

After years of delays, the Department of Transportation will finally consider resurrecting trolleys from Red Hook to Downtown, officials announced on Thursday.

"We're looking back to the future," said Transportation Commissioner Janette Sadik-Khan. "Streetscars remain part of the transportation mix in cities from Toronto to Melbourne, and we need to consider all options to improve transit access in underserved neighborhoods like Red Hook."

Trolley lovers and residents of the isolated neighborhood were thrilled at the announcement —



Are streetcars the back-to-the-future solution to Downtown traffic woes?

especially as it came after many years of trolley dodging by the city, which received the \$300,000 for the study — courtesy of Rep. Nydia Velázquez (D-Sunset Park) — five years ago, yet did nothing with it.

And in the 1990s, rail legend Bob Diamond dug, constructed and manned his own trolley line along the Red Hook waterfront, only to see his dreams dashed after the city cut off funding.

But now, Diamond is brimming with excitement that his dream of a Kings County once again teeming with trolleys might be realized.

"The mayor and the transportation commissioner have come out and said it's a good idea," said Diamond. "Back [in the 1990s] it was, 'Oh, Bob is down in that corner of Red Hook doing his experiment that might be a tourist

See TROLLEY on page 11

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Election day mess

'Bored of Elections' strikes again, critics say

By Aaron Short

The Brooklyn Paper

New machines, same old problems.

Anticipating a spate of technical problems with new electronic voting machines on Election Day, Brooklyn voters instead encountered incompetence from the Board of Elections.

Dozens of poll sites throughout Brooklyn turned away voters this morning because the machines had not been delivered or were not properly set up when polls opened at 6 a.m.

At PS 34 on McGuinness Boulevard and Norman Avenue, one of the heaviest turnout sites in Greenpoint, voters were unable to cast ballots for three hours because the machines did not arrive.

One of those voters was a candidate — Kate Zidar, who was running against a longtime incumbent for district leader, an office that, ironically, controls poll workers. “They didn’t have machines, they don’t even have the book of names, they don’t have signage out,” said Zidar. “It’s a hot mess, and it’s my polling site. I think it’s the beginning of a day of shenanigans.”

In Boerum Hill, voters at PS 32 did not get to cast their ballots un-



Poll workers Anthony Sneed (left) and Freddie Bess help Rebecca Chovnick Park Slope voter at her relatively quiet polling site on Eighth Street.

til 7:30 a.m., and in Carroll Gardens, MS 142 and PS 58 did not open for voters or at least two hours because Board of Elections officials did not give keys for the machines to the NYPD in time.

In Park Slope, voters had to wait at Camp Friendship on Eighth Street until 9 a.m. before casting a ballot because the voting machines did not have the proper extension cords and could not be turned on.

And in Williamsburg, the electronic scanners broke down entirely at PS 19 on S. Third and Keap streets.

“These machines are a piece of s—,” said Esteban Duran, a candidate for district leader. “This is our heaviest polling site.”

Councilman Brad Landi (D-Park Slope) believes that the Board of Elections was “unready for the change-over” since it took staff

members a long time to set up machines.

“This is total incompetence by the Board of Elections that inconvenienced and perhaps disenfranchised many Brooklyn voters,” said Landi. “There are often one or two problems here or there, but this was a far bigger fiasco than in times past.”

When the polls were finally open, several voters expressed dismay at the new voting system.

Instead of flicking metal levers for each candidate and manually pulling a lever on a post-War-era machine, voters had to take a green identification card and a paper ballot from an election worker, color in bubbles on a sheet that resembled a standardized test, and then give the paper ballot back to another election worker who took the card and scanned in the ballot form.

“When you’re done, there’s nothing signifying that you actually voted,” said one voter in Park Slope. “At least with the old machine, you’d pull the red handle back to its original position and it made a sound that made it clear you voted. I loved that sound — it sounded like a prison door closing on a corrupt politician.”

Board of Elections spokeswoman Valerie Vasquez acknowledged problems at some polling sites. “For months, our staff has been diligently working ... to minimize problems that may arise on Election Day,” said Vasquez. “We increased our poll-worker training by 50 percent ... increased the number of poll workers by 20 percent, and have worked with community and civic interest groups across the city.”

— with Gary Buisio

PRIMARIES

Continued from page 1
nessman-turned-environmentalist, never seemed to find the right tone in taking on the strident Grimm, first veering towards a moderate Republican voice, but then coming out against the so-called Ground Zero mosque and proclaiming his fealty to Rep. John Boehner, the controversial GOP leader in the House.

In a show of how seriously the Democrats are taking the coming general election, the Democratic Congressional Campaign Committee put out a statement saying that “Michael Grimm can’t be trusted.”

“Conflicting stories about his record and his past have come to define Grimm’s campaign and voters deserve answers if he hopes to gain their trust, let alone their vote,” said the statement, attributed to spokesman Shripul Shah.

But Grimm fired back: “I see my victory as a vindication, and that the voters want me to go back to Washington and work hard on health care to strengthen it,” he said. “I’m looking forward

to working very hard.”

Powell, the former “Real World” star turned author and public speaker, ran into trouble during the campaign when it was revealed that he owes more than \$600,000 in back taxes.

“He may have won tonight, but he did not win the hearts of Brooklyn people,” Powell claimed, vowing to return to challenge Powell in 2012.

CONGRESS: DEMOCRATS

Rep. Ed Towns, 8,991

Kevin Powell, 8,991

10th District

Fort Greene, Clinton Hill and Downtown

Towns easily defeated his rival, Kevin Powell, who has constantly talked about a youthquake in the district, even as he has never generated traction among voters.

By press time — and with about half of the districts responding — Millman held a 3-1 lead, effectively ending a long squabble between her and Biviano over her “double dipping” by taking her pub-

lic school teacher’s pension, her alleged lack of leadership on MTA cuts, and her role in overall Albany dysfunction.

“It feels good, but we’re still working,” Millman said from the election war room on First Place and Court Street in Cobble Hill. “Already I have bills in the works, and I’ll be tying up loose ends until January.”

One of those loose ends, she said, is a bill that would funnel federal stimulus money toward the Metropolitan Transportation Authority’s operating expenses — mostly because the city could soon charge straphangers “more for using transit less.”

Biviano was unreachably for the entirety of election night.

Joe Lentol, 5,138

Andre Solei, 1,308

50th District

Greenpoint, Williamsburg, Fort Greene

North Brooklyn voters rewarded assemblyman Joe Lentol with another term after dispatching two-time challenger Andre Solei in an 80-20 percent landslide.

Solei, an attorney and a Williamsburg resident, ran a negative campaign that criticized Lentol for contributing to Albany’s incessant gridlock and not addressing the needs of the southern part of his district.

But the goodwill for Lentol built up over three generations particularly among Hasidic voters in South Williamsburg, Italian sections of Williamsburg, and Polish neighborhoods in Greenpoint remained immense.

And his record passing the first meaningful reforms for mandatory drug sentencing in two decades while distributing a bevy of funds to constituent groups throughout the district only enforced that benevolence — which translated to support at the voting booth.

Both women have been fighting for months. Simon has accused Reichbach of being a party stooge who would vote in lockstep with the party chairman, Vin Lopez, and Reichbach lambasted Simon’s “sense of entitlement” for the seat and dismissed her reform credentials, claiming she is the true progressive in the race.

Reichbach’s polling of 37 percent was a strong showing for the first-time candidate whose family, including her father, judge Gun Reichbach, remains well-respected in Downtown, and even Simon conceded that Reichbach has a bright future in politics.

Reichbach, for her part, vowed to carry on.

“You know, I’m 28 and I got more votes than I thought I would need,” said Reichbach.

“I’m not upset right now. I’m going out with my friends right now on Smith Street and I don’t have to wear a suit. I’m happy with that.”

MALE: Lincoln Restler, 50.2 percent

Warren Cohn, 49.8 percent

FEMALE: Kate Zidar

Linda Minucci

50th District

Greenpoint, Williamsburg, Fort Greene

Both the male and female district leader races — which pit insurgents against reliable party insiders — were simply too close to call at press time. Check www.brooklynpaper.com for an update.

Kevin Peter Carroll, 60 percent

Ralph Peretto, 40 percent

60th Assembly District, Bay Ridge

This one was one for the ages, not the aged.

Youngster Kevin Peter Carroll, a 24-year-old political newcomer, turned his leadership of an insurgent Democratic club into a victory over one of the best-liked and best-known state committeemen in the borough, Ralph Peretto.

“I’m so happy and proud and ecstatic,” Carroll said after his victory, which he attributed to the fact that he “talked about the issues.”

For his part, Peretto praised Carroll’s “beat the bushes” campaign.

“He put his people out there, he worked and he got it,” the 18-year incumbent said. “He used some negative stuff, maybe that had some influence.”

Peretto was possibly referring to a Carroll campaign mailer featuring Peretto and Assembly Speaker Sheldon Silver cutting up a cake into five Assembly districts, a reference to Carroll’s contention that redistricting has hurt Bay Ridge.

— with Thomas Tracy and Helen Klein

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Two more iPhone thefts in Slope

78TH PRECINCT

Park Slope

Thieves must not have read Consumer Reports' negative review of the iPhone, as at least two more were stolen this week.

• One incident occurred at Flatbush Avenue on Sept. 10. The victim told cops that he was near Park Place but before 11 pm when the robber grabbed the expensive phone from his right hand and fled.

• A teenager stole an iPhone from a woman who was waiting for the R train at the Union Street station on Sept. 8. The victim told cops that the quick bandit grabbed the gadget from her hand at around 9:18 pm.

Car crimes

There was crazy car mayhem all week. Here's a roundup:

• Two cars were broken into on the quiet stretch of Flatbush Avenue near the Prospect Park Zoo. In the first case, a thief took a navigation system and wallet from inside a Honda parked on between Empire Boulevard and Grand Army Plaza on Sept. 10. The victim told cops that he parked his car at 1:30 pm and returned a half hour later.

One day earlier, a thief snatched a pair of glasses and a laser measuring tool

from a 2007 BMW. The robber broke the rear window sometime between 12:30 and 2:20 pm.

• A 1994 Plymouth Acclaim was stolen from 12th Street overnight on Sept. 1. The victim told cops that she parked her shabby sedan between Prospect Park West and Eighth Avenue at 10 pm and it was gone by 7:30 the next morning.

• Someone jacked a 2010 Toyota Camry from 12th Street on Sept. 8. The victim told cops that she parked her brand-new whip between Seventh and Eighth avenues at 5 am and returned an hour later to find only broken glass.

• A 1995 Pontiac Grand Prix parked at the corner of Prospect Park West and Eighth Street was swiped on Sept. 6. Cops said that the car was stolen at around 2 pm.

• A 2000 Volkswagen Jetta was taken from Fifth Avenue sometime between Sept. 5 and Sept. 7. The victim told cops that he left his ride at the spot between Eighth and Ninth streets for three days.

Alex Rush

Two brazen thieves held up a young couple on Sept. 6 as the two love birds canoodled in Love Lane.

88TH PRECINCT

Fort Greene-Clinton Hill

Monument mug
Two brazen thieves held up a young couple on Sept. 6 as the two love birds canoodled in Love Lane.

POLICE BLOTTER

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The victims were sitting by the Prison Ship Martyrs' Monument at 11:30 pm when the thugs pulled a gun and ordered them to hand over their property before running off toward Washington Park with the loot.

Two on one

A pair of hoodlums attacked a 33-year-old on Sept. 7 following a botched robbery at the corner of Washington Park and DeKalb Avenue.

The victim was on his way home from a nearby train station at 2:10 am when the fiends struck him with a metal rod. They tried to rifle the man's pockets, but the victim hunkered down, refusing to give them any access.

Frustrated, the thieves continued with their attack, leaving the strapping brawler battered and bruised as they left empty-handed.

Spree nip

A gun-toting thug was on a roll as he robbed two people within a half an hour of each other on Sept. 7 but cops didn't give him a chance to find a third victim.

On Sept. 9, The 29-year-old diner said she left her bag unattended for just a few moments while the caterer between Clermont Avenue and Adelphi Street at 8:15 pm.

"Talk about a haul! A hoodlum managed to slip out of Pequeano S. Portland Avenue on Sept. 9 with a woman's duffel bag. The woman didn't realize her bag was missing until 9 pm when she turned her head at the caterer before Lafayette Avenue and Fulton Street.

Thomas Tracy

77TH PRECINCT

Prospect Heights

New swipe

A 35-year-old news hound was arrested on Sept. 8 after he was caught stealing newspapers that a delivery man had left at an outdoor Prospect Place addresses.

The 42-year-old paperman figured out what was going on after a few days of complaints from his clients and asked police to join him between Carlton and Vanderbilt avenues that morning at 7.

That's when cops caught the thief and charged him with criminal possession of stolen property.

Atlantic assault

A heavy-handed thug that had just left the corner of Atlantic Avenue on Sept. 1, leaving his 36-year-old victim with a split lip and a swollen face.

The victim said he was approaching Vanderlip Street at 6:15 pm when the hoodlum attacked for no apparent reason, police were told.

Thomas Tracy

76TH PRECINCT

Carroll Gardens-Cobble Hill-Red Hook

Unlabeled pool

Someone stole a man's phone and wallet at the Red Hook Pool on Sept. 6.

The 49-year-old victim said he put his property in a secured locker at the pool, located at the corner of Bay and Clinton streets, at around 4:10 pm before taking a Labor Day dip.

When he returned, the lock was damaged and his iPhone, credit cards and driver's license were gone.

Sept. 6 was the last day that city pools were open for the summer.

It wasn't me

Two teens mugged a woman for her cellphone on Van Brunt Street on Sept. 9.

The victim told cops that she was near the corner of Dikeman Street and Van Brunt Street at 7:20 pm when she noticed two teens following her. One of the teens hit her on her right forearm, causing her to drop her phone, which one suspect picked up.

The second teen had the gall to look at the woman and inquire, "Why are you yelling, I didn't take your phone!" He promised to retrieve the phone and ran off, never to return.

Two-timed

A gunman mugged a man on President Street of money and watches on Sept. 8.

The 40-year-old victim said he was between Hoyt and Smith streets at mid-night when a man pointed a black revolver in his face and demanded cash. The thug made off with \$145 and one \$1,000 engraved gold Chrysler watch, and a second \$500 Bulova watch.

Hooked at IKEA

Someone stole a woman's purse at the Red Hook IKEA on Sept. 4.

The 29-year-old victim said she placed her purse in her shopping cart at around 4:10 pm and looked away for a mere five minutes. But when her gaze returned to her cart, her purse was gone.

About two hours later, security personnel at the store, at Otsego and Beard streets, recovered the woman's purse, but the contents, including a passport, phone, Kipling wallet, and credit cards were gone.

Gary Bulso

94TH PRECINCT

Greenpoint-Northside

Bat attack

Three thugs attacked and tried to rob a man on Bedford Avenue on Sept. 6.

The victim told cops that he was near Lorimer Street on the busy strip at about 9 am when the three approached. One demanded \$100, and when the man said, "I don't have any money," the thugs attacked.

One brute hit the victim to the ground while another hit him in the head with a baseball bat before the three fled.

Cuss you

Two jerks robbed a woman and threatened her on Conesey Street on Sept. 5.

The victim said she was near Lorimer Street at about 11:45 pm when the two loomed — one of them

with what looked like a gun under his shirt.

"Give me f---ing everything!" the leech said and he handed over her iPhone and credit cards before the thief and his posse took off.

G whiz!

A quick-handed perp snatched a man's cash from his pocket as he stood on the C train platform on Sept. 7.

The victim said he was in the subway at Metropolitan and Greenpoint avenues at about 11:30 am when the jerk ran by, pulling \$45 and a Metrocard out of the man's shirt.

Before the victim could react, the thug was gone.

Andy Campbell

84TH PRECINCT

Brooklyn Heights-DUMMILL Hill-Downtown

Knifish

A thug brandished a knife and attempted to steal a woman's cash from her in Bergen Street on Sept. 11.

The victim told cops that she had just left the Hoyt-Schermerhorn station and was between Third Avenue and Nevins Street at around 10:30 pm when the jerk approached, flashed a knife and said, "Give me your bag."

The thief then attempted to snatch the purse, but the bold victim resisted, and the thug fled.

Bagged

A crafty thief stole a bunch of stuff from a building on Main Street on Sept. 10.

First, the thief stole a woman's bookbag, which she had left unattended in the waiting area of Fuisa Communications, between Water and Front streets, at around noon.

When the 18-year-old returned her attention to her bag, she realized that it, along with a MacBook, credit card and her wallet were gone.

Only minutes later, a separate incident went down that is likely related.

A witness working at a business called that, which is in the same building, told cops that she entered a conference room at around 12:35 pm and came upon a stranger stashing items in a duffel bag.

The witness asked, "What are you doing here?" To which the man replied, "Is this a film editing place?"

But the crook didn't wait for an answer — he waltzed out of the building with a credit card, passport, \$150, a purse and a locked wallet at \$150 from the room.

Swiped

A thief swiped an office worker's laptop and pricey wristwatch from his Jay Street desk on Sept. 10.

The victim told cops that he had left his desk at the building at Water Street at around 11:45 am just to get a coffee. When he returned 10 minutes later, his Apple computer and Omega Sea Master wristwatch was gone.

The only other worker in office said he didn't see or hear anyone. Really?

Stephen Brown

68TH PRECINCT

Bay Ridge

Shoulder stab

A 19-year-old jammed a knife into a rival on Sept. 6 during a bloody confrontation at the corner of Fourth and Ovington avenues.

A witness watched in horror as the assailant stabbed his victim in the back shoulder blade during the 8:50 pm scrape. The victim was rushed to Lutheran Medical Center for treatment, and the assailant was arrested following

a search of the area, police said.

Compu-swipe

A creeper snatched into a Fourth Avenue apartment on Sept. 7, taking a desktop computer and the 30-inch monitor that came with it.

The victim returned to his home between 72nd Street and Ovington Avenue at 10:15 pm only to be greeted by an empty desk.

There were no signs of forced entry, but the bathroom window had been left ajar, police said.

GPS grab

Navigation devices were flying out of automobiles like nobody's business this week. Here's the rundown:

• A thief snatched the driver's side window to a 2007 Lexus left on Ovington Avenue on Sept. 8, taking a digital navigation system and \$20. The car's owner told police that he left the car between 11th and 12th avenues at 6 pm.

• A \$200 Garmin navigation device was removed from a 2004 Ford Explorer as it sat on 72nd Street on Sept. 9.

The thief snatched his way into the car between Ridge Boulevard and Third Avenue sometime after 12:15 am.

Thomas Tracy

90TH PRECINCT

Southside-Bushwick

Pot stealer

A marijuana seller threatened to stab his customer in the neck inside a Seiged Street building on Sept. 11 before robbing him and fleeing the scene.

The drug dealer entered the building near Bushwick Avenue with his client at 12:30 am — but the tables turned when he slammed his victim against the wall, threatening, "You're going to get shanked in here."

The victim did not get "shanked" but was shaken, surrendering his iPhone and \$20 before the perp fled the building.

Whipped

Three thugs robbed, choked and pistol-whipped a victim and his girlfriend as they were walking along his Bedford Avenue apartment on Sept. 10.

The perp rode up to his victim from behind at 7:50 pm while she was walking her dogs near Grand Street. He snatched the phone and rode away.

Aaron Short

Bike phone

A cycling perp stole a woman's iPhone right out of her hand on Havemeyer Street on Sept. 7.

The perp rode up to his victim from behind at 7:50 pm while she was walking her dogs near Grand Street. He snatched the phone and rode away.

— Aaron Short

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[illegible]

Thief steals car — with little dog inside

Pekinese returned safely after 24-hour ordeal

By Joe Anuta
for The Brooklyn Paper

A heartless car thief took a pouch on a joyless joride through Windsor Terrace before abandoning the vehicle with the helpless pup imprisoned inside it last Wednesday — but this shaggy dog story had a happy ending thanks to a concerned neighbor who alerted cops to the starving dog in time.

"I'm so grateful," said the

pup's owner, Kira West, who had been searching for her pilfered SUV — and, more important, her beloved Pekinese Ashley — for 24 hopeless hours after the car disappeared from Windsor Place near Prospect Park Southwest at noon as she ran a quick errand.

"I thought you were in a Dumpster somewhere?" West said — to the dog — when they were finally reunited on Thursday afternoon.

The happy reunion would never have happened were it not for the eagle eyes (yes, that's pun of neighbor Clara Turner, who heard the hungry hound barking from inside its four-wheeled prison after it was abandoned on Windsor Place between Eighth Avenue and Prospect Park Southwest, four blocks from the theft).

The heroic neighbor called cops and gave them the license plate number of the car, which

was quickly matched to West's stolen vehicle report.

Within an hour, Ashley was a free dog, and neighbors from all along the block were joining in the happy de-nouement.

"It's great that Clara saw it," said resident Audrey Segrell. "Who would do something like this?"

A good question. Cops are still hunting the thief.



Kira West is all smiles after the reunion with Ashley.

SWAMP THING

Man dumps gator at 88th Precincthouse

By Joe Anuta
for The Brooklyn Paper

Cops in Clinton Hill precinct became alligator swan-glers on Sunday after a man dropped off this two-foot-long baby croc claiming that he had found it in a nearby park.

Officers at the 88th Precinct stationhouse on Classon Avenue did not believe the man, but took the gator, tossed him into the back of a squad car, and drove it to the Center for Animal Care and Control in East New York.

Just another day at the office, said Capt. Anthony Tasso, the precinct's commander.

"It wasn't a big deal," he said. "We get people dropping off animals here all the time."

The rogue reptile was most likely the man's pet — but grew larger than he expected, said Richard Gentles of the Center for Animal Care and Control.

"Some people keep reptiles illegally as pets until they become unmanageable," Gentles said, adding that the center would likely send the rogue reptile to a rehabilitation center, as it had probably never been in the wild before.

"Animals hand raised in captivity, or a person's home, typically don't have the skills to survive on their own," he said.

The Parks Department was not aware of any alligator spotting in Brooklyn over the weekend. It is illegal to keep alligators at home, but the man was not arrested.



Photo: 118.88.88.88



Turns out, this sign was a prank, the city says.

Existential sign was a fake

By Stephen Brown and Alex Rush
The Brooklyn Paper

Brooklyn's most befuddling street sign turned out to be a prank.

After we reported on the sign in Sheepshead Bay that warned drivers, "No Parking Other Times," the Department of Transportation determined that it did not belong to the city.

"This sign is not part of our inventory and will be removed," said

an agency spokesman.

That's probably for the better, as many drivers were left scratching their heads at the sign at Ocean and Emmons avenues — though some, faced with the existential question of when it was legal to park at "other times," proceeded to park anyway.

One theory about the prank is that the person who hung the sign had a vested interest in people not parking in the area, said Theresa Schavo, the district manager of

Community Board 15.

"I'm telling you people steal the [No Parking] signs!" said Schavo. "There are boats loading and unloading and someone got their hands on a sign and they don't want people parking there!"

Schavo added that this is not the first time someone in Sheepshead Bay has taken parking matters into his own hands.

"One resident couldn't sweep well in front of his residence, and so he hung an alternate-side park-

ing sign on a telephone pole — but there is no alternate-side parking there!" said Schavo, adding, "People were moving their cars every Thursday, and he got to sweep."

Theoretically, locals generally seemed to ignore the sign's mixed message.

"I actually never noticed that sign, but I park here all the time," said Elena Randazzo, whose family owns Randazzo's Clam House across the street. "That one is pretty strange though."

SAINT...

Continued from page 1 as a graduate, and clashing with the Ku Klux Klan in Long Island after he built an orphanage for black children in 1928.

The Klan burned the building to the ground twice. "He took a stand," said Rev. Paul Jervis, St. Peter Claver's current pastor and the principal promoter of the sainthood quest. "He saw it as evil for the Klan to force him to move. He felt he had to take a stand and defend the rights of the children. He was simply not going to give in."

And he didn't. The Little Flower Orphanage was rebuilt a second time in 1930, and stands to this day. Jervis, who wrote a 2005 biography of Quinn entitled "The Quintessential Priest,"

said Quinn's sainthood is a no-brainer — especially now.

"His canonization is important at this particular time, when there seems to be so much hostility between Christians and Muslims over the mosque near Ground Zero," said Jervis.

The canonical inquiry is the first embarked upon by the Brooklyn diocese since its creation in 1853. The goal of the formal process is to determine whether a candidate is morally worthy of sainthood, and ultimately, whether at least two miracles can be attributed to him — a stage that has yet to be encountered by those promoting Quinn's cause.

Born on the same day

as Martin Luther King Jr., Quinn died in 1940 at the age of 52, decades before this country's civil rights movement would emerge. But Quinn did his part to nudge it along, prevailing on political powers, businesses and the church that they should not discriminate against blacks.

"No church can exclude anyone and still keep its Christian ideals," Quinn said in 1929.

Some 8,000 people attended his funeral, according to news accounts of the time. Before St. Peter Claver, Quinn served as chaplain in the 33rd Machine Gun Infantry Regiment in World War I, where he had been shot at and gassed.

Undaunted by the horrors of the Great War, he served a variety of parishes, including Our Lady of Mercy in Downtown, where he first became

How to become a saint

Sure, you hold doors open for old ladies, rescue cats stuck in trees, and maybe even think about saving the whales — but becoming a Catholic saint is a lengthy process that can span decades. Here's the rundown:

- First, be Catholic.
- Then, live a life dedicated to moral probity, public service and, yes, a little politicking to be sure everyone knows how good you are.
- Die.
- A local bishop investigates your life and writings, dispatching the findings to the Vatican.

- A panel of theologians and cardinals examines your life.
- If the panel approves, the pope proclaims you venerable, meaning you are a role model of Catholic virtues. Yes, little of 'you'!
- Next comes beatification, but someone has to document a posthumous miracle that's linked to you.

- The only way to avoid this step is to be declared a martyr — someone who died for his or her religious cause. Good luck with that!
- To become a saint, a second posthumous miracle must be proven.
- Survive the process and you'll be canonized at a special mass in your honor. Congrats! — Gary Buio

interested in the plight of the borough's African Americans. He was made monsignor in 1923 and assigned to St. Peter Claver. He would later go on to establish a second parish for blacks in Queens named for St. Benedict the Moor.

The road to sainthood, or canonization, can be a long one — in some cases tak-

ing decades for the Vatican to grant its approval. Quinn is in the early stages of the process, as a panel of theologians has just started to investigate his life.

"I am delighted to be given the privilege to preside at the opening of the cause of canonization for this priest who was a courageous and tire-

less proponent of the equality of all people," DiMarzio said in a statement.

There are roughly 3,000 saints in the Roman Catholic Church. Brooklyn, it does have a connection to two other current candidates: Bishop Francis Ford, a missionary who was born in Brooklyn

parish, but as an Episcopalian, she never had the occasion to meet him.

"One night she had a dream that Msgr. Quinn told her to make her youngest child Catholic," said Clinton Hill resident Delores Casey, who was the youngest of Quinns' four children.

Her mother obeyed — and baby Delores was raised Catholic.

"My mother trusted this man so much that she was willing to put her baby daughter in the hands of people who demonstrated that they hated black folks."

The dream turned out to be fortuitous — for Quinn's cause. Today, Casey is president of the Guild for the Canonization of Msgr. Quinn, a group that seeks to popularize his life and work through speaking engagements and speaking to the media. To learn about the Msgr. Quinn, go to fatherquinn.org.

"I'm lucky to have my life back."

Edgar Ostolaza

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The Brooklyn Paper's essential guide to the Borough of Kings

September 17-23, 2010

Feeling lucky?

Pennies are this DUMBO artist's coin of the realm

By Meredith Deliso
The Brooklyn Paper

By sheer numbers, Michael Worthington should be the luckiest guy on earth. Over the past 10 years, he's picked up over 400 "lucky pennies" — coins found face up on the street that, as the folklore and your mom tells you, give you good luck.

At the time he started collecting them, Worthington wasn't so lucky — he was unemployed. Walking the streets, he was amazed at the amount of coins littered all over the place — in a city of wealth, money dropped wasn't important enough to pick up, even the lucky ones.

His artistic impulses kicked in, and Worthington, a self-described "urban folk artist," started picking up the pennies, ultimately crafting four-inch-by-four-inch paintings — small enough that you can hold in the palm of your hand, like a coin — with the penny at the center.

"The penny's kind of magical," said Worthington. "It radiates energy from the center of the painting."

The subject matter for each piece is easy: the location where he found the penny, and date, serve as sources of inspiration.

"I've certainly never lacked for imagery," said Worthington, whose influences range from pop artists like Warhol to KAWS. One painting he recently finished is an homage to hot dogs and French fries thanks to a penny he found by Nathan's in Coney Island. In the piece, Worthington ably employs the bright, solid yellows, reds and greens of the slogan, but makes it his own by juxtaposing that with white and black images of the food for a comic book feel.

A more abstract piece was made from a penny found at the corner of Myrtle and Prince streets in Downtown, a red spiral circle dripping like blood that speaks to that corner's violent past.

By marking each piece with the date he found the penny and the city, the paintings have become Worthington's own time capsules.



Feelin' lucky: DUMBO artist Michael Worthington displays a "penny painting," which feature a lucky penny — found heads up, of course — and a painting inspired by where he found it.

—many of the pennies were found in Brooklyn, naturally, but also France (the Eurocent), Iceland (the króna), and Barbados.

Worthington has nearly 90 "Lucky Penny Paintings" completed — some are in private collections, some are on the walls of his DUMBO apartment, and 25 currently are on display at Smith Hanten real estate in Cobble Hill.

"People say the pieces are a nice breath of fresh air in the neighborhood," said Pe-

ter McGuire, a broker at Smith Hanten, which devotes his window space to art by local artists.

With hundreds of pennies waiting to be made into paintings, and new ones found almost every day, Worthington will never lack for work, or inspiration.

"As long as I find them, and they don't stop making them, all the pennies will be painted," said Worthington. "I'm always looking."

And would he consider himself blessed by the penny's folklore fortune?

"I would like to think so," said Worthington. "I have a life's worth of joy to be enjoyed" point of view. I like to think that over all, luck's been on my side."

Michael Worthington's "Lucky Penny Paintings" at Smith Hanten [165 Smith St. at Wyckoff Street in Cobble Hill, (718) 634-0300], now through Sept. 30. For info, visit www.pennypainting.com.

DINING

Meat & greet

Heritage Foods — the Bushwick protein distributor that superb restaurants like Fatty Cue and Fette Sau swear by — is throwing an epic all-you-can-meet party on Sept. 25 at Roberta's, complete with celebrity chefs, endless Six Point ales, and of course, all the top-quality meat you can possibly consume.

"It'll be the biggest meat and greet we've seen," said Patrick Martins, co-founder of Heritage Foods. "The party's a tribute to all the farmers and restaurants we work with."

The price tag may seem a little steep at \$100, but where else are you going to find chef Gabo McMackin or Mario Batali serving up cured hams, smoked fish, pork shoulder, prosciutto, turkey, and brisket next to some hot DJs and an endless glass of Sweet Action?

Plus, all that meat comes from Heritage's small, all-American family farms — that means no genetically modified feed, no animal cruelty, no E. coli, no bull. The quality's better than a so-called "gourmet" meal in Manhattan, and the tab is cheaper.

Meat and Greet at Roberta's [261 Moore St. between Bogart and White streets in Bushwick, (718) 417-1118], Sept. 25, 7 pm. For tickets, call (718) 389-0985. For info, visit www.heritagefoodsusa.com. — Andy Campbell

FESTIVAL

After the pool

The Williamsburg International Film Festival is more than movies, and it isn't just happening in Williamsburg.

The meeting of art, music and film — dubbed Willifest — is the brainchild of Brooklyn Films, a production company based in Williamsburg and it runs Sept. 23-26 at various locations in North Brooklyn.

Opening night features a screening of "Pool Party" at Galapagos Art Space in DUMBO. The documentary (pictured by Beth Aala, is about the famed Williamsburg outdoor summer concert series — when it actually took place in a pool.

Another highlight is the premiere of "As Good as Dead," starring Andie MacDowell and Carey Elwes, on Sept. 25 at El Puente in Williamsburg, complete with the red carpet treatment.

These are just a few of the 170 films selected for the four-day festival, which festival director Michael Helman sees as New York's answer to Sundance reimagined as an all-around arts festival, complete with film, as well as free music outdoors on S. Fourth Street, stand-up, workshops by industry professionals, a Moth Storytelling Slam, and a photo exhibit by End Farber at the Knitting Factory.

Willifest from Sept. 23-26 at various locations. A one-day festival pass costs \$20 (\$50 for a full festival pass). For schedule, visit www.willifest.com. — Meredith Deliso

EVENT

Beat down

Take the realism of Japanese wrestling, the high-flying acrobatics of Mexican lucha libre, and tons of comic book imagery — and you get chikara.

And on Sept. 19, the "sport" if you will, makes its New York debut in Greenpoint, pile-driving home the crazy and unpredictable antics that out-of-town wrestling fans have come to love.

Copying the Mexican tradition, good guys — known as técnicos — and villains called rudos will battle in singles and tag-team matches. But don't expect soap opera storylines on top notch, WWE-style production values here.

"Chikara reminds the fans that wrestling is supposed to be fun," said Mike Quackenbush, who founded the sport in 2002. "For a long time, people have been just kind of content to mimic the [Vince] McMahon sports entertainment model. We're one very drastic step removed from those groups."

Chikara at the Warsaw [261 Driggs Ave. at 64th Street in Greenpoint, (718) 387-0505] Sept. 19, 3:30-7 pm. Tickets are \$25. For info, visit www.chikarapro.com. — Andrew Benjamin



Graphic view of Katrina

Josh Neufeld was just another comic book artist until Hurricane Katrina put him on the bestseller list.

Neufeld was one of thousands of volunteers who rushed to waterlogged Crescent City in the wake of the disaster five years ago — but he's the only one who came back with a blog, a self-published book, and a gripping graphic novel, "A.D.: New Orleans After the Deluge."

"I was very shocked and upset with what I saw happening down there," said Neufeld, a longtime artist for the renowned comic series, "American Splendor," and author of the prior graphic novel, "A Few Perfect Hours."

"All these people trapped in the city and the lack of government intervention galvanized me into doing something."



Something first morphed into a blog, and then a collection of entries, called "Katrina Came Calling," which led to the well-received new autobiographical graphic novel. Neufeld's work as a Red Cross disaster response worker feeding hurricane-stricken citizens remains front and center in "A.D.," an eye-opening tale of destruction and human perseverance familiar to anyone who read Neufeld's popular blog.

"A.D." is filled with sadness, but also the resilience of what Neufeld calls the "colorful characters" of New Orleans. It started as a web comic, but went on to become a New York Times bestseller shortly after its hardcover release in 2009.

It's now out in paperback, and Greenlight Bookstore is heralding the event with a reading on Sept. 20. Josh Neufeld at Greenlight Bookstore [686 Fulton St. between S. Elliott Place and S. Portland Avenue in Fort Greene, (718) 266-0200], Sept. 20 at 7:30 pm. Free. For info, visit bookstorebrooklyn.blogspot.com. — Adam Warner

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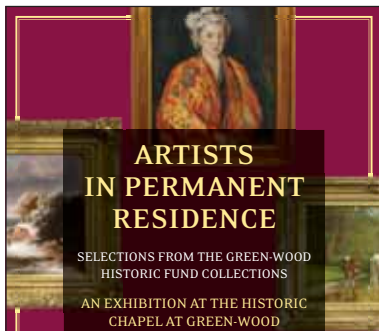
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HERE TO GO

EDITORS' PICKS

SATURDAY
September 18

Wowie zowie

It's been 10 years since Pavement put out "Terror Twilight," but the sun has certainly not set on indie-rock pioneers. The group will be doing five shows over six days this month, but the one on the Williamsburg Waterfront is the kickoff. After that, it's off to Central Park, where we could care less what happens.

5:30 pm. Pavement at the Williamsburg Waterfront (N. Eighth Street and Kent Avenue in Williamsburg). Tickets \$38.50.

6 pm-midnight. Greek Food Festival at Three Hierarchs Church (1724 Avenue F between E 17th and 18th streets in Midwood). Tickets \$39-0280.

Greek to us
Sure, Brooklynites have a food fixation, but the Greeks invented the Edible Complex. So indulge your stomach—and your subconscious—with homemade gyros, shish kebab, baklava, and pastries at the Three Hierarchs Church's two-day, Grecian grub-fest, which is in its 50th year. You don't turn a half-century with bad lamb.

6 pm-midnight. Greek Food Festival at Three Hierarchs Church (1724 Avenue F between E 17th and 18th streets in Midwood). Tickets \$39-0280.

MONDAY
September 20

Bela bash

Just turn on the TV, go to the movies, or open a box of Count Chocula cereal and you'll see vampires. They're everywhere! Who's responsible for this fanged cultural phenomenon? One man: the oft-imitated Bela Lugosi. Accept no substitutes, and see him star in "Dracula," the film that started it all, as part of Brooklyn Academy of Music's "Bela Lugosi's Dead, Vampires Live Forever" series.

6:50 and 9:15 pm. "Dracula" at BAM Rose Cinema (30 Lafayette Ave. at Ashland Place in Fort Greene). Tickets are \$8-\$12. For info, visit www.bam.org.

THURSDAY
September 23

7th Avenue stretch

This sample sale has some bite! At the third annual Park Slope Restaurant Tour, hungry hordes will be able to taste free samples from more than 30 of the neighborhood's top restaurants (including "Sweet" Melissa Murphy's pastry shop). The featured cuisines span the globe. So, don't decide where to eat dinner until you've sampled them all.

6-9 pm. Park Slope Restaurant Tour. For a list of participating restaurants, go to www.baybrooklyn.com.

Eliot smith
T.S. Eliot, that ever-beat poet, takes the audience to a medieval English cathedral in his lyrical drama, "Murder in the Cathedral." The featured cuisines span the globe. So, don't decide where to eat dinner until you've sampled them all.

7:30 pm. "Murder in the Cathedral" at St. Joseph's Church (856 Pacific St. between Vanderbilt and Underhill avenues in Prospect Heights). Tickets \$10 suggested donation. For info, visit www.murderinthecathedral.com.

NINE DAYS IN BROOKLYN

FRI, SEPT. 17

GREENPOINT FLEA MARKET: noon-8 pm. Greenpoint Reformed Church (138 Mission St. between Manhattan Avenue and Franklin Street in Greenpoint). Tickets \$18-35-9441.

THEATER, "LES MISERABLES — SCHOOL EDITION": Narrows Community Theater's cleaned-up version of the Broadway classic. 5:20, 8 pm. St. Patrick's Auditorium (Fourth Avenue at 97th Street in Bay Ridge). Tickets \$18-42-3773. www.narrowscommunitytheater.com.

THEATER, T.S. ELIOT'S "MURDER IN THE CATHEDRAL": OBE award-winner Alec Duffy helms this site-specific production. 10 (suggested donation). 7:30 pm. St. Joseph's Church (856 Pacific St. between Vanderbilt and Underhill avenues in Prospect Heights). Tickets \$10 suggested donation. For info, visit www.murderinthecathedral.com.

THEATER, "WHAT THE BUTLER SAW": The Gallery Players present Joe Orton's comedy. 8 pm. Gallery Players (199 14th St. between Fourth and Fifth avenues in Park Slope). Tickets \$12-32-3011. galleyplayers.com.

THEATER, "HANSEL AND GRETEL": What happened after "Happily Ever After"? 7:15, 8 pm. 17 Frost Performance Space (17 Frost St. between Union Avenue and Lorimer Street in Williamsburg). www.hanselandgretel.com.

FILM, "TROUBLE EVERY DAY": As part of BAM's "Bela Lugosi's Dead, Vampires Live Forever" series. 8:12, 2:40, 6:50 and 9:15 pm. BAM Rose Cinema (30 Lafayette Ave. at Ashland Place in Fort Greene). Tickets \$12-37-4129. www.bam.org.

CAMPING: Cookout dinner, night hike and campfire. Bring your own sleeping bags, tents and a lantern. Registration required. Free. 6 pm. Prospect Park Wildlife Refuge (Ocean Ave. at Parkside Avenue in Prospect Park). Tickets \$18-55-9999. www.prospectpark.org.

RELIGION, YOM KIPPUR SERVICES: Free. 6:15 pm. Bay Ridge Jewish Center (405 81st St. between Third and Fourth avenues in Bay Ridge). Tickets \$18-33-3103. Tickets \$18-745-4363.

THEATER, "THE LAST SHOW YOU'LL EVER SEE": Trombone-playing heroine grapples with the endless possibilities of ending as part of the New York Clown Theatre Festival. 8:15, 7 pm. The Brick (575 Metropolitan Ave. at Lorimer Street in Williamsburg). Tickets \$18-907-6189. www.bricktheater.com.

COMEDY NIGHT: Hosted by Nick Turner (College Humor) and Jason Saenz (DC Comedy Festival). Free. 8 pm. Cocobabe (46 Greenpoint Ave. between Franklin and West streets in Greenpoint). Tickets \$17-607-6045. www.myspace.com/cocobabe.

THEATER, "LOOKING THROUGH TREES": Musical theater. 8:15 (S25 artists, students, seniors), 8 pm. Ironside Center (65 S. Oxford St. at Lafayette Avenue in Fort Greene). Tickets \$18-488-9233. www.ironside.org.

MUSIC, CLASSICAL CONCERT: With Philip Edward Fisher, piano. \$40



Stand-up man: Eugene Mirman brings the funny to the Bell House, Union Hall and Rock Shop from Sept. 16-19 with his annual comedy festival.

\$35 senior, \$15 student). 8 pm. Bargemusic (Fulton Ferry Landing, Old Fulton Street and Furman Street in DUMBO). Tickets \$18-624-2083. www.bargemusic.org.

MUSIC, UNICYCLE LOVES YOU, FRANCES: \$10 (35 in advance). 8 pm. Littlefield (622 Degraw St. between Fourth and Fifth avenues in Greenpoint). Tickets \$18-3385. www.littlefieldny.com.

THEATER, "THE KAPINSKI PRIVATE EYE ACADEMY": But Kapinski trains cadets in the art of urban private investigation in the streets of Williamsburg as part of the New York Clown Theatre Festival. 8:15, 8:30 pm. The Brick (575 Metropolitan Ave. at Lorimer Street in Williamsburg). Tickets \$18-907-6189. www.bricktheater.com.

THEATER, "HOW TO GIVE UP YOUR DREAMS — BY NOT REALLY TRYING": Clown Bony Li leads audiences out of the rat race at the New York Clown Theatre.

CIVIC CALENDAR

MON, SEPT. 20

Community Board 2 Parks and Recreation Committee. Monthly meeting. 6 pm. Brooklyn Museum (121 DeKalb Ave. at St. Felix Street in Fort Greene). Tickets \$18-596-5410.

Community Board 10. Monthly full board meeting. 7:15 pm. Community Board 10 office (919 Fifth Ave. between 81st and 82nd streets in Bay Ridge). Tickets \$18-745-6827.

TUES, SEPT. 21

Community Board 2 Transportation and Public Safety Committee. Monthly meeting. 6 pm. St. Francis College (180 Remsen St. between 81st and 82nd streets in Bay Ridge). Tickets \$18-745-6827.

To list an event in the Civic Calendar, e-mail Calendar@bonglobal.com.

http://

Find lots more listings online at BrooklynPaper.com/Events

FESTIVAL, \$15. 9 pm. The Brick (575 Metropolitan Ave. at Lorimer Street in Williamsburg). Tickets \$18-907-6189. www.bricktheater.com.

THEATER, "CONEY ISLAND CHRIS" ADULT SHOW: Freak keeps age-old traditions of sideshow alive at the New York Clown Theatre Festival. \$15. 10:30 pm. The Brick (575 Metropolitan Ave. at Lorimer Street in Williamsburg). Tickets \$18-907-6189. www.bricktheater.com.

MUSIC, KARAOKE: Free. Midnight. Union Hall (702 Union St. at Fifth Avenue in Park Slope). Tickets \$18-638-4400. www.unionhall.com.

SAT, SEPT. 18

OUTDOORS AND TOURS

HEALTH, BROOKLYN ROAD RUNNERS CLUB: Group runs for intermediate and advanced runners. Free. 9 am. Bartel-Pritchard Square (15th Street and Prospect Park West in Park Slope). Tickets \$18-928-9447. www.brooklynroadrunners.org.

TOUR, HISTORIC AIRPLANES: Visit restored cars. Free. 10 am-4 pm. Floyd Bennett Field Hangar B (Flatbush Avenue and Aviation Road in Marine Park). Tickets \$18-338-5956. www.spacewatch.com/people/dh/harbo.

TOUR, FROM BOROUGHS HALL TO CITY HALL AND BACK: Free walking tour. 11 am. Brooklyn Borough Hall (209 Joralemon Street in Williamsburg). Tickets \$18-907-6189. www.brooklynboroughhall.com.

PERFORMANCE

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THEATER, "WHAT THE BUTLER SAW": 8 pm. See Friday, Sept. 17.

THEATER, "HANSEL AND GRETEL": 8 pm. See Friday, Sept. 17.

THEATER, "WHAT THE BUTLER SAW": 8 pm. See Friday, Sept. 17.

THEATER, "A DRESSING HISTORY": Kids seven and up uncover history through the lens of clothes: pen, gun, suits, jeans, tees, and kiki. Part of the New York Clown Theatre Festival. \$10. 3 pm. The Brick (575 Metropolitan Ave. at Lorimer Street in Williamsburg). Tickets \$18-907-6189. www.bricktheater.com.

THEATER, "THE LAST SHOW YOU'LL EVER SEE": 6 pm. See Friday, Sept. 17.

THEATER, "LOOKING THROUGH TREES": 8 pm. See Friday, Sept. 17.

See 9 DAYS on page 10

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Vast 'Delusion'

Anderson examines her weird dreams

By Adam Warner
for The Brooklyn Paper

"I've been asleep for 20 years," Laurie Anderson said. "What have I been doing all that time?"

Anderson, the legendary experimental artist, seeks to capture the mysterious world of dreams in her mind-bending new show, "Delusion."

Combining such diverse subjects as ghost ships, punctuation, Icelandic elves, dead relatives, the Swiss super collider, the decline of the American empire, the mystic who started the Russian space program, and her Swedish-Irish heritage, "Delusion" takes elements from throughout Anderson's 30-year canon.

"Almost every artist could say that dreams are their inspiration," said Anderson. "How does that affect them, as you're cooking up these images at night, your waking self?"

Anderson accomplishes this mighty, multi-topic task by cutting "Delusion" into 20 short plays, and forcing viewers into an ethereal show where they never know what is real and what is illusion.

In "Delusion," Anderson plays everything from jazz to folk with her electronically enhanced violin, which is accompanied by Tibetan temple



Strange days: Experimental artist (and Lou Reed gal pal) Laurie Anderson opens BAM's Next Wave Festival on Sept. 21 with "Delusion," a play about elves, mysteries and ghost ships. That sounds about right.

horns, Arabic strings, and virtuoso musicians, not to mention Anderson's crafty animation and film sequences projected on furniture. She also alternates between her own voice and that of a male alter ego, Fenway Bergamot

(naturally). It's more hallucinogenic than dropping acid while listening to Iron Butterfly. But of course — it's Laurie Anderson, an artist who has worked in the visual, musical, lyrical, photographic, electronics and oral spheres for three decades. On top of this, she's invented several instruments and released various studio albums.

Her previous works are the stuff of cult fandom — "United States: Parts I-IV," "Empty Places," "The Nerve Bible," and "Songs and Stories from Mobo Dick" — but few artists can claim, as Anderson can, to have been an "artist in residence" for NASA. That role culminated in her piece, "The End of the Moon," which had a two-week run at BAM in 2005.

Weird science, indeed. Laurie Anderson's "Delusions" at BAM's Henry Theater (651 Fulton St. at Rockwell Place in Fort Greene, (718) 636-4100), Sept. 21-25, Sept. 28-30, Oct. 1-2 at 7:30 p.m. Sept. 26 and Oct. 3 at 3 p.m. \$20-\$60. For info, visit www.bam.org.

Tasty stuff on horizon

Where you should eat this fall

By Kristen V. Brown
for The Brooklyn Paper

After a sweltering summer, it's a safe bet that most of us are ready for fall. Here are our picks for fall's dining musts:

Miranda: Fall-inspired menu items like apple risotto with gorgonzola and roasted poblanos make this cozy room and pop spot the perfect place to celebrate the season with a bite and a glass of wine. To westernize the deal, the Italian-Latin fusion restaurant is welcoming the fall with a Back-to-School special: college students can dig into a special three-course price-five menu for just \$25.

Miranda (80 Berry St. at N. Ninth Street in Williamsburg, (718) 387-0711).

Henry's End: Each October, Henry's End offers adventurous eaters a chance to try something a little out of the ordinary at its annual wild game festival. So whether it's a BBQ rattle-snake salad, herb crusted elk chops or kangaroo with panetta, Swiss chard and port wine, you can enjoy a hearty,

wild meal — no hunting required. Beyond that, the rest of the menu channels the season as well, with dishes like Zinfandel-braised short ribs with horseradish mashed potatoes or day boat scallops with quinoa, cauliflower and gremolata.

Henry's End (44 Henry St. between Cranberry and Mott streets in Brooklyn Heights, (718) 634-1776).

Applewood: Fall dining really only requires two things: a great, cozy dining room and a good hearty meal. Applewood, of course, has both, complete with a large crackling fireplace, flecking inviting warmth over the whole restaurant that's perfect for the season's first chilly days. There are other reasons to visit Applewood as well — namely the sophisticated, Slow Food-driven cookery. But when there's a fireplace, anything else is really just an added bonus.

Applewood (501 11th St. between Seventh and Eighth avenues in Park Slope, (718) 788-1810).

Bruckelen: Next week, Cobble Hill's Bruckelen, the highly anticipated

modern American restaurant finally opens, boasting a menu manager Jeff Warner calls "hyper-local." With plans to change the menu as often as daily, expect the freshest of the season from chef-owner Andrew Karasz, cooked up in dishes like a herb-roasted hen served with sweet corn succotash, smoked bacon and paprika oil. Be sure to note the restored tin ceiling and brickwork that earned it landmark status, too.

Bruckelen (268 Clinton St. between Varodah Place and Warren Street in Cobble Hill, (718) 855-8110).

Beer Table: With fall, comes great beers — pumpkin ales, brown ales and porters. Head to Park Slope's premier establishment for fancy beers and enjoy a great meal alongside your beer. Beer Table chef-owner Justin Philips has just expanded Tuesday's \$25 three-course prix fixe dinner to a nightly affair, serving up hearty fall fare like stewed eggplant with tomato and couscous and spicy beef and pork meatloaf with roasted potatoes and anguilla. For an extra \$15, take advantage of Philips' open on beer pairings.

Beer Table (427 Seventh Ave. between 14th and 15th streets in Park Slope, (718) 965-1196).

Target Family Fun Series

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(\$7 at the door)

Tom Chapin in concert
Sun, Oct 3, 2010 at 2pm
For ages six and up

The Colonial Nutcracker
Sun, Dec 12, 2010 at 2pm
For ages four and up

Seussical
Sun, Jan 30, 2011 at 2pm
For ages four and up

The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe
Sun, April 10, 2011 at 2pm
For ages six and up

American Family Theater's Beauty and the Beast
Sun, May 22, 2011 at 2pm
For ages four and up

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9 DAYS...

Continued from page 8

THEATER, "NEON LIGHTS": Classic Vaudeville duo Jeff and Buttons perform at the New York Clown Theatre Festival. 8:30 p.m. The Brick [575 Metropolitan Ave. at Lorimer Street in Williamsburg, (718) 907-6189]. www.bricktheater.com

THEATER, "PORTRAYED — THE UNREARABLE BURDEN OF DECIDING WHAT TO DO BEFORE DYING": 8 p.m. See Friday, Sept. 17.

THEATER, "THE ATMOSPHERE": 8 p.m. See Friday, Sept. 17.

THEATER, "ONE FLEW OVER THE CUCKOO'S NEST": 8 p.m. See Friday, Sept. 17.

MUSIC, SUGAR SHACK BURL LESQUE WITH THE PECULIAR GENTLEMEN: 10 p.m. See Friday, Sept. 17.

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BROOKLYN INDIE MARKET: Local craftsmen and women. 11 am-7 pm. Red and white tents [Smith Street at Union Street in Carroll Gardens, (718) 370-7635]. www.thewhenewmy.com

OTHER

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RELIGION, YOM KIPPUR: 9 am, 11:30 am, noon and 5 pm. See Friday, Sept. 17.

NATURE WALK: John "Wildman" Steve Bill on a walking tour in search of near-missing puffballs. Free registration required. 11:45 am. Prospect Park [Grand Army Plaza in Prospect Heights, (718) 634-0383]. www.wildmanstewebill.com

TALK, "BEING AN ARTIST IN BROOKLYN": Five artists and a curator discuss the challenges and opportunities facing visual artists today. Free. Noon. Brooklyn Historical Society [128 Pierrepont St. at Clinton Street in Brooklyn Heights, (718) 222-4111]. www.brooklynhistory.org

THE LAST SUPERHERO: Art show and dinner. \$15 [510 with three or more cans of food to donate]. 4 pm. 440 Gallery [440 6th Ave. between Ninth and 10th streets in Park Slope, (718) 699-3844]. www.440gallery.com

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LECTURE, "FIVE MONTHS IN GALZA — A REPORT FROM BEHIND THE PRISON WALLS": Talk by Max Aj. \$10. 5 pm. Church of Gethsemane [1012 Eighth Ave. between Ninth and 10th streets in Park Slope, (718) 624-9921]. www.brooklynpeace.org

FILM, "SHOW AND TELL — COMING OF AGE ON CAMERA": Cinebrats present vintage educational films. \$7 (6 with school photo). 8 pm. Union Hall [702 Union St. at Fifth Avenue in Park Slope, (718) 638-4400]. www.unionhall.org

MON, SEPT. 20

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ARTISTS AND FLEAS: Noon-8 pm. See Saturday, Sept. 18.

OTHER

GREEK FOOD FESTIVAL: Noon-5 pm. See Saturday, Sept. 18.

FILM, "DRAM STOKER'S DRACULA": As part of BAM's "Bela Lugosi's Dead, Vampires Live Forever" series. \$8-\$12. 3, 6 and 9 pm. BAM Rose Cinema [30 Lafayette Ave. at Ashland Place in Fort Greene, (718) 636-4129]. www.bam.org

LECTURE, "FIVE MONTHS IN GALZA — A REPORT FROM BEHIND THE PRISON WALLS": Talk by Max Aj. \$10. 5 pm. Church of Gethsemane [1012 Eighth Ave. between Ninth and 10th streets in Park Slope, (718) 624-9921]. www.brooklynpeace.org

FILM, "SHOW AND TELL — COMING OF AGE ON CAMERA": Cinebrats present vintage educational films. \$7 (6 with school photo). 8 pm. Union Hall [702 Union St. at Fifth Avenue in Park Slope, (718) 638-4400]. www.unionhall.org

MON, SEPT. 20

FILM, "DRACULA" AND "INTIMATE INTERVIEWS — BELA LUGOSI": As part of BAM's "Bela Lugosi's Dead, Vampires Live Forever" series. \$8-\$12. 6:50 and 9:15 pm. BAM Rose Cinema [30 Lafayette Ave. at Ashland Place in Fort Greene, (718) 636-4129].



'Kid' stuff: Charlie Chaplin (with bowl) stars in "The Kid," which will open the fall season of Big Movies for Little Kids at Cobble Hill Cinema on Monday, Sept. 20.

at Val Brunt Street in Red Hook, (917) 751-9347]. urbanreadsbrooklyn.blogspot.com

THEATER, "A DRESSING HISTORY": 3 p.m. See Saturday, Sept. 18.

MUSIC, CLASSICAL CONCERT: Selected works by Luciano Pavarotti, Diego Ortiz, Francisco Canova da Milano, Giovanni Bassano, Joan Ambrosio Dalza, Thomas Lupo. \$40 (\$35 seniors, \$15 students). 3 pm. Bargemusic [Fulton Street Landing, Old Fulton Street and Furman Street in DUMBO, (718) 624-0383]. www.bargemusic.org

MUSIC, COUNTRY BLUES GUITAR BACKUP WORK: SHOP WITH FRANKIE BASILE. \$20. 4 pm. Jalopy [315 Columbia St. between Hamilton Avenue and Woodhull Street in Park Slope, (718) 699-3844]. www.440gallery.com

MUSIC, PAVEMENT: \$38.50. 5:30 pm. East River western front [N. Eighth Street and Kent Avenue in Williamsburg, (718) 907-6189]. www.bricktheater.com

THEATER, "CHANNEL ONE": Lost souls create programming on the only channel on the world's last TV as part of the New York Clown Theatre Festival. 8 p.m. The Brick [575 Metropolitan Ave. at Lorimer Street in Williamsburg, (718) 907-6189]. www.bricktheater.com

THEATER, "PORTRAYED — THE UNREARABLE BURDEN OF DECIDING WHAT TO DO BEFORE DYING": 8 p.m. See Friday, Sept. 17.

THEATER, "THE ATMOSPHERE": 8 p.m. See Friday, Sept. 17.

THEATER, "HANEL AND GRETEL": 8 p.m. See Friday, Sept. 17.

THEATER, "ONE FLEW OVER THE CUCKOO'S NEST": 8 p.m. See Friday, Sept. 17.

SALES AND MARKETS

BROOKLYN FLEA: About 150 vendors sell their wares at this popular market. Free to enter. 10 am-5 pm. Williamsburg Savings Bank [1 Hanson Pl. at Flatbush Avenue in Downtown, www.brooklynflea.com]

FULTON FLEA: Free. 10:30 am-6 pm. Parking Lot - Brooklyn Plaza Medical Center [650 Fulton St. between 5, Ellicott Place and Ft. Greene Place in Downtown Brooklyn, (718) 364-5646]. www.fultonflea.com

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THEATER, "LEGGS AND ALL": Men in 40s-themed women in box in hilarious love story allegory as part of the New York Clown Theatre Festival. 10 am-5 pm. The Brick [575 Metropolitan Ave. at Lorimer Street in Williamsburg, (718) 907-6189]. www.bricktheater.com

SALES AND MARKETS

BROOKLYN FLEA: About 150 vendors sell their wares at this popular outdoor market. 10 am-5 pm. The Brick [575 Metropolitan Ave. at Lorimer Street in Williamsburg, (718) 907-6189]. www.bricktheater.com

ARTISTS AND FLEAS: Free. Noon-8 pm. Artists and Fleas [129 N. Sixth St. between Bedford Avenue and Berry Street in Williamsburg, www.artistandfleas.com]

BROOKLYN INDIE MARKET: Local craftsmen and women. 11 am-7 pm. Red and white tents [Smith Street at Union Street in Carroll Gardens, (718) 370-7635]. www.thewhenewmy.com

OTHER

GREEK FOOD FESTIVAL: Souvlaki to spanakopita and, of course, dancing. 6 pm-midnight. Three Hierarchs Church [1724 Avenue B between 17th and 18th streets in Midwood, (718) 539-0200]

RELIGION, YOM KIPPUR: 9 am, 11:30 am, noon and 5 pm. See Friday, Sept. 17.

NATURE WALK: John "Wildman" Steve Bill on a walking tour in search of near-missing puffballs. Free registration required. 11:45 am. Prospect Park [Grand Army Plaza in Prospect Heights, (718) 634-0383]. www.wildmanstewebill.com

TALK, "BEING AN ARTIST IN BROOKLYN": Five artists and a curator discuss the challenges and opportunities facing visual artists today. Free. Noon. Brooklyn Historical Society [128 Pierrepont St. at Clinton Street in Brooklyn Heights, (718) 222-4111]. www.brooklynhistory.org

THE LAST SUPERHERO: Art show and dinner. \$15 [510 with three or more cans of food to donate]. 4 pm. 440 Gallery [440 6th Ave. between Ninth and 10th streets in Park Slope, (718) 699-3844]. www.440gallery.com

OUTDOORS AND TOURS

HEALTH, BROOKLYN ROAD RUNNERS CLUB: 9 am. See Saturday, Sept. 18.

PERFORMANCE

THEATER, "LES MISERABLES — SCHOOL EDITION": 3 p.m. See Friday, Sept. 17.

THEATER, "MURDER IN THE CATHEDRAL": 3 p.m. See Friday, Sept. 17.

THEATER, "WHAT THE BUTLER SAW": 3 p.m. See Friday, Sept. 17.

MUSIC, RED HOOK JAZZ FESTIVAL: All-day event. 5 pm. Noon-6 pm. Urban Meadow [19 President St. in Park Slope, (718) 907-6189]. www.bricktheater.com

THEATER, "LEGGS AND ALL": Men in 40s-themed women in box in hilarious love story allegory as part of the New York Clown Theatre Festival. 10 am-5 pm. The Brick [575 Metropolitan Ave. at Lorimer Street in Williamsburg, (718) 907-6189]. www.bricktheater.com

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ARTISTS AND FLEAS: Noon-8 pm. See Saturday, Sept. 18.

OTHER

Another cyclist killed



A cyclist was killed when a driver opened a car door and knocked her into the path of a bus on Atlantic Avenue on Saturday night. The driver of the car left the scene to attend a baby shower nearby, but later returned to the crime scene for a breath test.

By Thomas Tracy
The Brooklyn Paper

A 24-year-old motorist from Staten Island was arrested on Sept. 11 after she sparked a chain of events that led to the horrific death of a bicyclist near the corner of Atlantic and Washington avenues, but then refused to admit her role in the tragedy.



The battle for Brooklyn's byways

Krystal Francis was getting into her Dodge Stratus parked on the east bound side of Atlantic Avenue at 8:38 pm when she opened her car door, clipping 23-year-old Flatbush resident Jasmine Herron as she passed on her bike — knocking the woman into the path of a B45 bus making its turn onto Washington Avenue.

The bus struck Herron, who died at the scene, horrified witnesses said.

Francis attempted to drive away, claiming that she had nothing to do with the accident and was running late to a baby shower, but responding officers dragged her back to the scene. She was later charged with driving on a suspended license, police said.

The death has been devastating for Herron's family and friends at her hometown in Colorado.

"Herron's mother, Wendy, is having a very hard time," said one of Herron's best friends, Jenny, through tears on Monday. "And so are we. We've known her since we were 12 years old."

Others described the avid biker — who worked as a barista at Think Coffee in Manhattan — as sweet, fearless and witty.

Wyckoff Gardens Child Health Clinic & Williamsburg Dental Clinic

Will Close on October 15th

The **Wyckoff Gardens Child Health Clinic**, located at 266 Wyckoff Street in Brooklyn, is closing. Dr. Quilly Lee will be moving to the Fort Greene Child Health Clinic, located at 295 Flatbush Ave Extension. If you would like information about how to continue receiving services from Dr. Lee, or one of the many highly qualified pediatricians who work at Woodhull Hospital, or one of our other health centers, please call us a **718-260-7500**. Your child's health is very important to us and we look forward to continuing to serve your family.

If you choose to go to another pediatrician, please call us a **718-260-7500** to obtain your child's medical records.

The **Williamsburg Dental Clinic**, located at 214 Graham Avenue in Brooklyn, is closing. If you would like information about continuing your dental care at Woodhull Hospital, please call us at **718-388-5889**. Your health is important to us and we look forward to continuing to serve you.

If you want to obtain your dental records, please call **718-388-5889**. We would be happy to give them to you or your new dentist.

Woodhull North Brooklyn Health Network

TROLLEY...

Continued from page 1

"Now, it's being taken seriously," he added.

The five-month study will be coordinated by URS, a consulting firm that was involved in the Portland, Ore., streetcar system, which Diamond cited as a model for his own proposed route last month.

If the city determines that Red Hook is ripe for a trolley system, there are certainly plenty of federal cash that could go towards the project.

The Federal Transportation Administration has at least three separate funds worth a total of \$250 million for projects that could involve streetcars in cities.

In addition to those pots of cash, the Obama administration has also allocated \$8 billion in federal stimulus money towards rail projects — more than \$150 mil-

lion of which is going to New York State.

And on Labor Day, President Obama signaled once again that rail transportation would be a priority in upcoming legislation meant to create more jobs.

A Department of Transportation spokesman said that the agency was well aware of the money available, and had taken advantage of more than \$200 million through the stimulus and other grants for ferry projects, a major bus lane upgrade on 34th Street in Manhattan and others.

But the agency, the spokesman added, was not yet in a position to apply for the federal money when it came to trolleys.

"We are not in a position to apply for funding for a streetcar system whose feasibility has not yet been determined," the spokesman said.

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Dr. John Deysine is the new head of breast service at New York Methodist Hospital.

He's your new breast friend

New York Methodist Hospital has appointed Dr. John Deysine its chief of breast service, thanks to his innovative approach to treating breast cancer through breast-conservation techniques.

"Most women can undergo breast-conservation surgery for breast cancer since the goal of treatment is removing the breast cancer, not the breast itself," said Deysine. Types of breast-conserving surgery include lumpectomy (removal of the lump), quadrantectomy (removal of one quarter or quadrant of the breast), and segmental mastectomy (removal of the cancer as well as some of the breast tissue around the tumor and the lining over the chest muscles below the tumor).

At New York Methodist, patients have access to the full scope of services required to diagnose, treat, rehabilitate, and support patients with breast cancer and other diseases of the breast. The hospital's services include mammography and more-advanced screening tests like breast MRI, conservative surgery by specialists in breast surgery, a regional radiation oncology center and a spacious and attractive ambulatory infusion center where chemotherapy can be administered.

In addition, the hospital has a physical therapy program for women recovering from breast surgery, an American Cancer Society patient cancer navigator or on staff and cancer support groups.

"Patients are continuing to seek out specialists for their illnesses, and look for physicians and facilities that have expertise, high volume and specialized training," said Deysine. "New York Methodist has all of that, and more, for diagnosing and treating breast cancer."

During the last 10 years, survival rates for breast cancer have significantly increased because of improved diagnosis and treatment.

"Women in Brooklyn don't have to leave the borough to receive this optimum specialized care," he added.

"We are delighted to welcome Dr. Deysine," said Anthony Tortolani, chairman of the hospital's Department of Surgery. "The recent growth in this division enables us to provide the highest level of care to patients who are diagnosed with breast cancer and other diseases of the breast."

For information, contact New York Methodist Hospital's Department of Surgery at (718) 780-3288.

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KIDS • SCHOOL • STYLE • TEENS • CAMPS • MUSIC

PARENT

Sometimes, kids must run a muck

I turned the corner in Prospect Park with a funny feeling. My instinct was right, like it is when the kids get a little too quiet, when you know they must be up to something. My little one, Oscar, had run ahead with his friends and, as I'd guessed, they'd followed the dog into the little pond. The murky

water held who-knows-what, but I laughed and shrugged when I saw my son and his friends smiling and laughing, playing happily. I took out my BlackBerry and held it up for a photo to document the giddy grossness.

"Say 'Giardia!'" I joked, more for the adults looking

on in disgust and judgment than for the kids, who would have no idea about parasites swimming around them. A man walked up and stopped next to me. "You should be careful," he said, concerned. "Dogs poop in there. They shouldn't drink it."

I had already told them not



Fearless Parenting

By Stephanie Thompson

To drink it — and, frankly, didn't need his advice. But still I smiled. "Well, you know," I said, "it's the city, and they love to swim, and the water seems so fresh..."

I laughed, adding, "And whatever doesn't kill you makes you stronger." That last comment I made was actually not a joke, but something I wholeheartedly believe: exposure to bad things is often a good thing. Believing this to be true is the reason I could smile at the kids in the Prospect Park cesspool in the same way I smiled in Costa Rica when we discovered the stream they were gliding through had been contaminated recently with sewage, or the way I did when Oscar used to lick the pole in the subway. (I did draw the line when he picked up candy off the subway floor and wanted to eat it.)

There is a growing body of research that shows a correlation between going head-to-head with germs and building one's immune system. Such research suggests that over-protecting kids from coming into contact with little amoebas is actually what's creating the overwhelming surge of allergies and illness among kids today. I cringe when I see people, especially my progeny, slathering themselves with astringent hand sanitizers. The Benzene in it will likely get them long before whatever germ they're trying to kill off.

I am not alone in this theory. In his book, "Losing Our Cool, Uncomfortable Truths About Our Air-Conditioned World," Stan Cox offers up a warning far more dire than a little dirty water. He blames parental over-reactions to exposing chil-

dren to bacteria, fungi, nematodes and/or other tiny organisms for actually predisposing kids to allergies and asthma. Keeping kids inside, in sterile air-conditioned environments, "rather than out in the backyard making mud pies," he says, is depriving the little immune systems of essential training.

So I guess I needn't have felt like a bad parent for letting the kids bathe in the dog pond. But the germs-are-good theory is not just a salve to make me feel better for being irresponsible. I need no better evidence than that my kids are rarely sick, that they manage to weather things well despite — or maybe because — of their mother's insistent intent not to worry.

Last year, I called the doctor only once, to make their annual well-visit appointment. Knock on wood, but I think it takes more than luck: it takes letting your kids sometimes run slightly amok (or, more accurately, in the muck).

Stephanie Thompson is a Park Slope mom of two. This is her second column since succeeding the legendary Smartmom, Louise Crawford.

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FAMILY CALENDAR

FRI, SEPT. 17

11:30 am: Storytime with Emily Mouse Spot (81 Atlantic Ave. between Hicks and Henry streets in Brooklyn Heights, (718) 923-9710, themousepot.com).

4 pm: Movie: Family Friendly. Free. Pacific Library (25 Fourth Ave. between Flatbush and Fourth avenues in Boerum Hill, (718) 638-1531, www.brooklynpubliclibrary.org).

6:15 pm: Movie night. Mouse Spot (81 Atlantic Ave. between Hicks and Henry streets in Brooklyn Heights, (718) 923-9710, themousepot.com).

SAT, SEPT. 18

10:30 am: Story time for kids. Greenlight Bookstore (686 Fulton St. between South Elliott Place and South Portland Avenue in Fort Greene, (718) 246-0200, abookstoreinbrooklyn.blogspot.com).

11:30 am-12:30 pm: Falling into fall. Brooklyn Children's Museum (145 Brooklyn Ave. at St. Marks Avenue in Crown Heights, (718) 735-4400, www.brooklynkids.org).

1:30 pm: Science power hour. Learn about nature. Prospect Park Audubon Center (Enter park at Lincoln Road and Ocean Avenue in Prospect Park, (718) 287-3400, www.prospectpark.org/audubon).

2:30-3:30 pm: Learn about birds. Brooklyn Children's Museum (145 Brooklyn Ave. at St. Marks Avenue in Crown Heights, (718) 735-4400, www.brooklynkids.org).

SUN, SEPT. 19

11:30 am-12:30 pm: Falling into fall. See Saturday, Sept. 18.

1:30 pm: Science power hour. See Saturday, Sept. 18.

2-5 pm: Textile exhibit. Examine the fibers and fabrics in use in the 1800s. Free. Lefferts Historic Homestead (452 Flatbush Ave. between Empire Boulevard and Eastern Parkway in Park Slope, (718) 789-2822, www.prospectpark.org).

2:30-3:30 pm: Learn about birds. See Saturday, Sept. 18.

4-5 pm: Tad Hill's, author of "How Rocket Learned to Read." RSVP required. Free. Powerhouse Arena (37 Main St. at Water Street in DUMBO, (718) 666-3049, www.powerhouse-arena.com).

4 pm: Audiolife. As part of the Carroll Park Concert Series. Free. Carroll Street Park (Carroll Street between Court and Smith streets in Carroll Gardens).

TUES, SEPT. 21

11:30 am: Storytime with Emily Mouse Spot (81 Atlantic Ave. between Hicks and Henry streets in Brooklyn Heights, (718) 923-9710, themousepot.com).



Audra Rox performs at Carroll Park on Sept. 19.

Henry streets in Brooklyn Heights, (718) 923-9710, themousepot.com).

11:30 am-12:30 pm: Toddler Time. Reading fun ages 18 to 36 months. Free. Clinton Hill Library (380 Washington Avenue in Clinton Hill, (718) 398-8713, www.brooklynpubliclibrary.org).

3:30 pm: Arts and crafts. Free. Leonard Library (81 Devos St. between Lorimer and Leonard streets in Williamsburg, (718) 486-3365, www.brooklynpubliclibrary.org).

WED, SEPT. 22

1 pm: Storytime with Emily. See Friday, Sept. 17.

THURS, SEPT. 23

11 am: Dance around with Nat. Mouse Spot (81 Atlantic Ave. between Hicks and Henry streets in Brooklyn Heights, (718) 923-9710, themousepot.com).

FRI, SEPT. 24

10 am: Babies and books. Free. Windsor Terrace Library (160 East Fifth St. between Ft. Hamilton Parkway and Cator Avenue in Windsor Terrace, (718) 686-0707, www.brooklynpubliclibrary.org).

11:30 am: Storytime with Emily. See Friday, Sept. 17.

SAT, SEPT. 25

10:30 am: Story time for kids. See Saturday, Sept. 18.

10:30 am: "Sleeping Beauty." Puppet production of the children's classic. Free. Owl's Head Park Terrace (6700 Shore Rd. between 68th Street and Colonial Road in Bay Ridge, (347) 834-3944).

Noon-6 pm: St. Charles Borromeo Church block party. Fun for the whole family. Free. St. Charles Borromeo Church (21 Sidney Pl. in Brooklyn Heights, (718) 625-1177, www.schurchofky.org).

Noon-2 pm: Jeremy Plays Guitar! A guitar dance party. \$5. Lincoln Park Tavern (491 Lincoln Rd. in Prospect Lefferts Garden, (718) 282-7097).

1:30 pm: Science power hour. See Saturday, Sept. 18.

To list your event, email calendar@englocal.com

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Vincent's High School

Red scared

Vox Pop proletariat opts for craven Capitalism

By Stephen Brown
The Brooklyn Paper

The voice of the people has been silenced by the state — and a lot of people are getting screwed.

Vox Pop, the beloved café and neighborhood hangout in Ditmas Park, has closed for good, and all of its assets were auctioned off by the state on Sept. 15.

"I'm really sad about it closing," said Angela Welch, an investor in the café, as well as a regular. "It always felt like a social experiment to me."

But now that experiment is over, and around \$12,000 in back pay for employees and \$4,500 in debt to suppliers may go unpaid, according to a financial analysis posted online in July.

"Unfortunately, that's the case [that employees' wages may go unpaid]," said Tim Olson, the chairman of the board of the café at Cortelyou and Stratford roads.

The outstanding debt should be a surprise to no one — the joint had been closed by the taxman several times in the last few months due to money owed to the state.

The official decision to pop Vox Pop for good came on Sept. 7 after a meeting of the café's shareholders — there are around 210 total — in which the group discussed the business's fate, given that the state had locked its doors yet again.

"It came to a point where we thought, 'How many times can we afford to do



Vox Pop in Ditmas Park has closed.

this?" said Debi Ryan, the general manager of the café. "We all wanted the sense of community to continue, but the amount of debt, especially the tax debt, seemed to grow exponentially."

The collective considered various alternatives — including raising \$103,288 to reopen, declaring bankruptcy, or doing nothing and allowing the state to seize and auction the assets.

The shareholders settled on the latter. "We couldn't afford to [stay open] and sustain our-

selves at the same time," said Ryan.

Vox Pop was in the hole \$246,647, including around \$134,000 in back taxes, according to the shareholders' financial analysis.

Much of that debt was due to the mismanagement of Vox Pop's founder, the 9-11 conspiracy theorist Sander Hicks, who was instrumental in its unique atmosphere that welcomed comedians, musicians, and revolutionaries — and its ultimate demise.

"I wish there was a second chance for it," said Hicks. In order to give the café a second chance, shareholders forced Hicks to divest himself of the company last January.

Still, in just four more months, the place was again shut down by the taxman. Hicks theorized that there were sinister forces — beyond his inability to run a business — conspiring to close the café's doors.

"I can't say for certain that there was government bias in the closing of Vox Pop," he said. "But we started get-

ting fines like \$14,000 from a single inspection from the city's Department of Health. I can't say for certain its because we were 'Truthers' — but questioning Sept. 11 sure didn't help."

Some locals saw the end of Vox Pop as a sign that did not bode well for the neighborhood. "I hate to be defeatist, but there is nothing you can do to keep the character of the neighborhood from turning into a more corporate one," said Welch, the investor. "There was a special point in time when nice things [restaurants and other businesses] came into Ditmas Park, and Vox Pop was really central to that."

But Ryan added that while the café is gone for good, the movement for a community center to fill the void left by Vox Pop has already begun.

"There was an overwhelming desire [among shareholders] to try and build a community center," Ryan said. "Where and in what form remains to be seen."

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CATS...

Continued from page 1
that, like Holmes, who lives in Greenpoint.

Eisenbach added that she had made it her mission to alert people giving away pets in Brooklyn that there was an opportunistic thief looking to flip felines.

Holmes managed to reach Unique — whose last name is being withheld because she did not return phone calls to the three numbers she had provided to her "victims" — who admitted that she had sold Pippi and Denver for \$50 each, but would not pass along the contact information for the felines' new owner.

"I just decide to find them

litter trained and eating soft food, both are orange and white," read one post.

"I have two adorable kittens left out of a litter of six, they're six weeks old. One is mostly white with some spots. The other is white also, with mostly black on back," read another.

"\$350, ragdoll kittens" read yet another.

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"I just decide to find them

homes," Unique wrote in a typo-riddled e-mail provided by Holmes. "You still gave them away to me for free, no contract, once in my hand their [sic] initially mines. That means I wanted to give them to my nieces, stranger walking the street, dad, or grandmother that's initially on me. ... I'm not gonna sit here going back and fourth with you, then get excited and have an asthma attack."

Unique added that she wouldn't have let Holmes take her picture — the one on this page — if she was running a scam.

That left Holmes in the unenviable position of wondering whether the woman who scammed her out of her cats was at least being honest that they had gone to a

good home.

Still, she couldn't help but fear the worst: that the kittens had been swept by a "buncher" — an underground pet-gatherer who takes advantage of "free to a good home" animal adoption fees and then passes the pets on to laboratories for animal testing.

Holmes also said she learned a tough lesson that is endorsed by animal rescue organizations: check the adoption fee, and at the very least have some sort of adoption agreement in writing.

"Know people archiving for money because of the economy," said Holmes, who even offered \$75 for the return of each of her kittens. "But that doesn't excuse the lies and misrepresentations."

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Bird call contest? No, this lady was participating in last year's Air Sex World Championships.

SEX...

Continued from page 1
tar Championship that we covered in April, then one can expect a face-ful of titillation on Oct. 9: Contestants will strut, grab and motorboat their way for two minutes, while covering all the bases of the air sex experience: meeting, seduction, foreplay, intercourse and, if successful, afterglow.

The performance is accompanied by the participant's favorite song — you

could go with Ravel's "Bolero," any Barry White tune or even Boston's "More than a Feeling."

In other words, oh, oh, oh yes. Past that, there's only one other rule: all climaxers must be simulated (and judges do not want to check). But everything else — props, teams and talking — is fair in this war of love.

Judges — local comedians, musicians and artists — will choose their three favorite sex acts based on a slew of factors, including realism, hu-

mor, and the ability to please the crowd (though not necessarily in the manner in which you are thinking).

The winning three will enter the final round, where they'll do the horizontal hump to a mystery song. The champ will go on to compete the world title in Austin, TX — if he or she can penetrate the regional title this year.

Air Sex World Championships at the Music Hall of Williamsburg 66 N. 5th St. between Kent and Wythe avenues, (718) 486-5400. Tickets are \$12. For info, visit www.airsexworldfinals.com.



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Continued from page 1
than gave up an RBI double to Austin Waters and an RBI single to Adam Bailey. A wild pitch, a walk and an error by second baseman J.B. Brown on a sure double-play ball led to another run.

The final run of the inning scored on a groundout.

Valley Cat starter David Martinez was nearly flawless after that first-inning homer to Vaughn, giving up just one more hit and striking out three in his five innings.

The Cats added an insurance run in the sixth on a solo shot by Marcus Nisfitter, and closer Jorge DeLeon pitched a no-hit eighth and ninth to get the save.

Cyclones skipper Wally Backman said he was disappointed that his team "showed up without much punch," not getting a hit after the fourth.

"I would have liked to see more 'rah-rah-rah' out the guys, more standing on the top step than sitting on the bench," he said. "The bottom line is that we were outpitched. And we made a big error on a double-play ball. That's the difference in this game."

But when the series piv-

oted to MCU Park in Coney Island, where the Cyclones had an .800 winning percentage during the regular and post-season, there was even more pitching from Tri-City and even less punch from the Cyclones.

The Valley Cats got on the board first, with a single run in the third.

Tri-City starter Carlos Quevedo was cruising into the third — at one point striking out four in a row, but then yielded back to back doubles to Darrell Ceciliani and J.B. Brown. The team had a chance to take the lead when Cory Vaughn's ground ball was thrown away by the third baseman, but Brown was cut down at the plate.

Ceciliani — who led the league in hitting and is a sho-in for team MVP — saved a run in the fourth by making an amazing diving catch with a man on second.

But it was not meant to be. Tri-City got two more runs in the fifth. After a double and an error, Ben Orloff laid down a suicide squeeze bunt so good that he was also safe on the play. He stole third and then scored on a single



Cyclone catcher Juan Centeno's face and this pile of Tri-City Valley Cats makes it clear who swept the New York-Penn League championship series.

to make it 3-1.

A two-run double in the seventh by Adam Bailey made it 5-1. Quevedo, who gave up only three hits in his seven innings while striking out seven, got the win, and Jorge DeLeon, who got the save in Game 1,

also finished up Game 2.

"I don't want to say it was the pressure, but the competition definitely stepped up," said Ceciliani. "We couldn't produce any runs. We all expected to win a ring, but it didn't turn out that way."

— with Stephen Brown

Before finals debacle...

Cyclones were awesome in semi-final comeback

By Gersh Kuntzman and Stephen Brown

Before falling in the championship round, the Cyclones valiantly vanquished the Jamestown Jammers in the league semi-final series after losing the first game on the road upstate.

In Game 2, which may go down as one of the most-exciting wins in Cyclone history, Brooklyn beat Jamestown 9-8 after rallying twice in the late innings to tie the score, sending the game into extra frames — where Juan Centeno's monstrous double off the centerfield wall set up a walk-off wild pitch.

The lead changed hands nine times on the night.

Jamestown had gotten on the board first, with a run on a groundout in the second inning, but the Cyclones tied the score in the bottom of the frame on Jeff Flagg's double and a subsequent groundout.

Jamestown added another run off starter Angel Cuan on back-to-back doubles in the fifth, but the Cyclones exploded for four runs in the bottom of the inning.

Centeno led off with a double and scored on James Schroeder's single. After a single by Darrell Ceciliani put men on first and third, J.B. Brown's



Darrell Ceciliani's mad dash to home was successful, tying Game 2 in the eighth.

sacrifice fly plated Schroeder. Cory Vaughn then doubled home Ceciliani, and later scored on a throwing error on a ground ball by Flagg.

When Cuan was replaced by reliever Johan Figueroa to start the eighth, Jamestown erupted for four runs.

But the Cyclones tied it up again in the eighth, thanks to an infield hit by Brown that trickled just far enough away from the third baseman to let Ceciliani charge home from second.

Reliever Hamilton Bennett promptly gave up a run but Joe Bonifé and Cherry singled, putting men on first and third with one out — and Centeno promptly delivered the game-ty-

ing sacrifice fly.

In the end, Centeno played the hero's role in the 12th inning with a blast to centerfield that was inches away from a walk-off dinger. After a sacrifice bunt, pinch runner Zefirio McQueen scored on the wild pitch.

In Game 3, the Cyclones won 6-4 in another nail-biter.

After the game, the bubbly was flowing — though it wasn't traditional Champagne, but Kedem sparkling grape juice, a substitute that was either in honor of the Jewish New Year, which began just before first pitch, or the fact that several Cyclones are below the drinking age.



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